

Health Promotion Training for Paraprofessionals (FY02-2066)

Impact

A standardized web-based training course was developed to train nonprofessional health care personnel (paraprofessionals) to develop, implement, and evaluate health promotion activities.

Description

The goal of this initiative was to multiply the efforts of health promotion implementers by training paraprofessionals to bring health promotion into every clinic, ward, aid station, and TOE unit. The project used a web-based program to teach AMEDD paraprofessionals to conduct health promotion activities. Students taking the self-paced training engaged a mentor in their specialty who supervised course assignments. The course curriculum included developing a health promotion activity, writing program goals and objectives, creating a marketing plan, and evaluating the activity. The short-term goal of this project was to include several different types of MOS in the training from a variety of units

Outcomes

- Three rotations of 91M BNCOC students were trained using the program.
- The results of a 10-question knowledge and skill competency yielded inconclusive results due to a small sample size.
- A CD-ROM version of the course was also created.

Innovative Features

- The project used a internet-based, distance-learning format for training purposes.
- The project specifically targeted health paraprofessionals who do not routinely receive health promotion training, such as MOS 91M, 91EX2, 91WN9, and 65C.

Lessons Learned

- Developing Web-based programming is labor-intensive, time-intensive, and costly.
- A method to keep any Web-based program current and relevant is a critical consideration.
- Distance learning is still a developing field. Logistical hurdles to consider during the planning phase include tracking participation, providing educational credit, providing feedback to participants, getting feedback from participants, and administration and ownership issues of the program as a whole.